



Social Action

NEWS LETTER

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THE UNITED CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
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June, 1959

THE WAITING PEOPLE

More than two million human beings are waiting. They possess neither home nor country. Perhaps they own a worn suitcase or two, a few blankets, a shred of self-respect, and a dossier of papers that makes the rounds while they wait.

On December 5, 1958, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted a Resolution urging member states to promote a **WORLD REFUGEE YEAR**, beginning July 1, 1959. The **YEAR** is to provide a means of securing increased assistance for refugees throughout the world; to encourage additional financial help from governments, voluntary agencies, and the general public for its solution; and to encourage opportunities for permanent refugee solutions through voluntary repatriation, resettlement, or integration on a humanitarian basis.

Last month John W. Hanes, Jr., U. S. delegate to the Intergovernmental Committee on European Migration (ICEM), announced in a Geneva meeting that President Eisenhower would shortly issue a proclamation in a support of the **WORLD REFUGEE YEAR**.

Planning for **WORLD REFUGEE YEAR** must take into account the fact that the refugee problem is dynamic and recurrent—not static and temporary—is dependent upon fundamental and long-range factors, such as: political and social justice, international cooperation, and a world-wide concern and sharing among people everywhere. Possible solutions must take into consideration the magnitude of the problem; its urgency and complexity. Some of the worst emergencies affecting refugees can be met by concerted and concentrated action if taken promptly, and must include not only “camp clearance” but must also assist the thou-

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SOCIAL WELFARE— N. B. A. LUNCHEON

Denver Convention

**Cosmopolitan Hotel, Century Room
Saturday, August 29—12:20 p.m.**

This will be the third International Convention Luncheon sponsored by these two national agencies. The speaker will be Mrs. Edith M. Green, U. S. Congresswoman from Portland, Oregon. Mrs. Green was elected to the Eighty-fourth Congress in November, 1954. Prior to her congressional assignment she was active in civic and educational groups, as well as engaged in public school teaching for eleven years. She is the wife of Arthur N. Green and the mother of two sons. Mrs. Green has traveled widely and has made a study of juvenile delinquency in other countries. In her address she will deal with delinquency in the light of the church's opportunity and responsibility.

SOCIAL ACTION HIGHLIGHTS AT DENVER CONVENTION

Three meetings sponsored by the Principles Peace Fellowship—a functional forum on social issues—and several resolutions will be a part of the social education and action program at the International Convention of Christian Churches, August 28-September 2, at Denver, Colo.

DPF “after-sessions” at 9:30 p.m., Sunday and Monday, in Room 208 of the Convention auditorium, will feature Congressman Byron Johnson (Colo.) and Congresswoman Edith Green (Ore.), respectively. Mrs. Green also will speak at the annual DPF dinner at 5:30 p.m. on Monday evening. Mr. Johnson will speak Sunday night and both he and Mrs. Green will take part in a panel on “Issues of American Foreign Policy” on Monday with Barton Hunter, executive secretary, Department of Social Welfare, UCMS.

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CHANGING FAMILY LIFE

EMPLOYED WOMEN AND THE CHURCH, Cynthia Wedel, National Council of the Churches of Christ, N. Y. City, 35c per copy.

The author of this booklet, prepared for use as a Study and Discussion Guide for church groups, comes to grips with an issue that must be faced squarely by our society. Mrs. Wedel is an active laywoman in her church, former president of United Church Women, a vice-president of the National Council of Churches—with a doctorate in psychology. She has drawn on her many experiences as they relate to the lives of women, particularly, in the United States and around the world.

The first of the four chapters of this booklet is titled the *Situation Today*. The problem is introduced with pertinent facts pointing up causes, trends and problems in regard to the employment of women. The author states that “One of the most striking features of the employment of women today is the age distribution of working women . . . it was assumed a generation ago that the majority of the women who worked were young women who were working prior to marriage. Today the largest group in the labor force is made up of women over forty years of age, some of whom have worked continuously since completing their schooling.”

Chapter two, “Men and Women in the Changing Situation,” lifts up the psychological difficulties faced by both because of working women. It takes into account the fact that, since the lives of men and women are closely interrelated, a change in the role of women will bring with it problems of readjustments for men as well.

“The Changing Family” is chapter three, in which the author observes that the family is the institution most deeply affected by the increasing employment of women outside the home, as a fact no one

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"HANDS THAT CAN STILL PRAY"

The barriers to Negro voting in Bessemer, Ala., have been formidable enough in the past. Threats and harassment have been used along with qualification tests that would make a political scientist run for his books. Despite this, the Bessemer Voters' League has increased Negro voter registration from 75 to 2,000 from 1951 to 1959. And now the leader of this movement, Asbury Howard, has evidence that progress has not gone unnoticed by the die-hard elements of the white community. He has been sentenced to six months on a construction gang, and his son, Asbury, Jr., sentenced to a year at hard labor, in two of the most flagrant violations of civil rights in recent memory.

Later on we would like to ask the readers of SOCIAL ACTION NEWS LETTER to take the test that Negroes take in order to qualify for voting in Bessemer. But first let us report the background of the Asbury Howard and son cases. Howard, head of the Bessemer Voters' League, early in January asked a white sign painter, Albert McAllister, to make a poster from a cartoon, "Hands That Can Still Pray," that had appeared in the December 26, 1958, issue of the *Kansas City Call*, a Negro publication. The picture shows a Negro with praying hands bound by symbols of the limitations upon his fellows' entering, riding, working, playing, studying, eating, worshipping. On his lips are the words, "Lord help all Americans to see that you intended human beings everywhere to have the same rights."

Mr. Howard asked the sign painter to add to the poster the words "Vote Today for a Better Tomorrow." The poster was to be placed in the headquarters of the

Bessemer Voters' League. But before the poster was finished, Bessemer Police Chief George Baron seized it and arrested Howard without a warrant. On January 24, Mr. Howard was sentenced to serve five months on a construction gang and fined \$105 after the prosecuting attorney described the Negro civic leader's crime by saying: "It is my opinion that showing a man in chains is prejudicial to good order." The conviction was under a local ordinance prohibiting publication of "intemperate matter tending to provoke a breach of the peace, or any other matter prejudicial to good morals."

Following Howard's conviction he was assaulted by a mob of more than 40 men in the City Hall and received severe head injuries. A group of 15 policemen in the building did not intervene. Howard's son, Asbury, Jr., who came to his father's aid, was also injured. He was then arrested for disorderly conduct and resisting arrest and later sentenced to a year at hard labor. Meanwhile, Mr. McAllister, the white sign painter, is in the Bessemer city jail for his participation in this "crime." Appeals are being asked for but in the meantime, at this writing, the older Mr. Howard has served over half of his sentence.

Just who is Asbury Howard and what is his real crime? A profile would reveal that he operates a gas station and is also employed by the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers of which he is Eastern vice-president. His son is a Korean War veteran and was graduated from Morehouse College. Daughter, Cleopatra, is a student at Howard University, Washington, D. C. Mr. Howard serves on the Board of Deacons of the Starlight Baptist Church—where he has been a member for 41 years, and Sunday School Superintendent for 27 years.

Mr. Howard's crime was not disturbing the peace in the accepted sense of this term. He was not drunk or boisterous. He was not a radical urging his fellow men to overthrow their government. But admittedly he was "disturbing the peace" of some people in Bessemer, Ala., with his notion about living up to the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights. If Negro voter registration could

be increased from 75 to 2,000 it might not be long before a much larger percentage of Bessemer's 17,000 Negro voters would be qualified to vote. And surely, this is upsetting the "peace" of mind of those who now control Bessemer if anything is.

But the real dimension of Mr. Howard's crime cannot be appreciated without understanding what Bessemer's two thousand Negro citizens had to do in order to qualify to vote. A paraphrased list of questions asked prospective Negro voters follows. It might be a healthy exercise in humility for our readers to attempt to answer these questions themselves in terms of their own local situations:

How many U. S. Senators do we have; how old must they be; how long do they serve?

How many Congressmen are there in the House of Representatives; what are the age, other qualifications and length of service?

How many members are there of the Electoral College? How many people serve on the U. S. Government payroll? Who is the Secretary of State of Alabama?

How many Senators in the legislature, indicate the one from Jefferson County and his term of office? Who is Sheriff of Jefferson County? What is a felony; a misdemeanor?

Name Jefferson County's Board of Registrars? Are they elected or appointed and by whom? In Jefferson County, name the Probate Judge, County Solicitor, Commissioners, Tax Collector and Tax Assessor?

Name the: Chief Deputy and Solicitor of Bessemer Cut-Off; Deputy Probate Judge; Circuit Judges; Civil and Criminal Judge? Describe Bessemer's form of government; name its Commissioners, their titles, terms of office, and indicate who is City Recorder and City Attorney? Describe Birmingham's form of Government; name its Commissioners, their titles and indicate who is: Chief of Police, Circuit County Judges, Judge of Court of Misdemeanors and Felonies?

Now, dear reader, add up your scores and you will feel something of the scope of Asbury Howard's "crime" in registering 2,000 voters. The Disciples Peace Fellowship is one of the organizations contributing to the Howards' legal defense.

ROBERT A. FANGMEIER

SOCIAL ACTION NEWS-LETTER

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CONGRESS AND THE ARMS RACE

In Geneva, negotiators from the East and West are considering two vital subjects: the future of Berlin and Germany and a ban on nuclear weapons tests. In Washington, these important events related to the arms race have taken place recently:

TEST BAN SUPPORTED. On April 30 the Senate adopted by voice vote Senator Hubert H. Humphrey's resolution (S. Res. 96) supporting the Administration's efforts to negotiate an end to nuclear weapons tests under "an adequate inspection and control system." Significantly, there was no publicly voiced opposition to the resolution in Congress. But behind the scenes there is considerable disagreement with its purposes.

The Senate resolution was read at the Geneva negotiations and is credited by close observers with being a major factor in bringing an agreement nearer.

In the House, five similar resolutions have been introduced. Letters to your Congressman and Chairman Thomas E. Morgan of the House Foreign Affairs Committee will help bring this issue to their attention. Sponsors: Edwin B. Dooley, N. Y. (H. Res. 234); Henry S. Reuss, Wisc. (H. Res. 242); Chester Bowles, Conn. (H. Res. 250); Leonard Farbstein, N. Y. (H. Res. 261); John S. Monagan, Conn. (H. Res. 262).

Charles Porter, Ore., has again introduced his bill (H.R. 4295) to prohibit any further testing of nuclear weapons by the United States until another country tests.

RADIATION HEARINGS. On May 8, the Holifield Subcommittee of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy wound up four days of controversial hearings, bringing up to date findings on radiation hazards made since the first hearings two years ago. The mass of scientific evidence which went into the record has been subjected to varying interpretations.

AEC spokesmen who dominated the hearings minimized fallout hazards. Among the points made by critics: • AEC conclusions are based on average doses and do not take into account the high fallout in particular localities. • Comparisons by the AEC of fallout with natural radiation in drinking water in certain areas are misleading; evidence is accumulating that these areas have a greater ratio of abnormal births. • Although testimony on moral issues was ruled out at

the hearings, the concept of a "permissible level" of a harmful activity implies a moral judgment.

In June the Holifield Subcommittee will hold hearings on expected damage from a full-scale nuclear war.

Shift to Public Health Service Urged

A Senate Labor and Public Welfare Subcommittee held hearings May 14 on S. 1628 by Senator Lister Hill, Ala. This bill would give the Public Health Service and state and local health agencies primary responsibility for protecting the public against radiation hazards. Similar bills (H.R. 6265 and H.R. 7014) have been introduced in the House by Kenneth A. Roberts, Ala., and John E. Fogarty, R. I. This proposal is gathering strong support from many who feel the AEC has inadequately discharged its responsibilities in this field.

SPREADING A-WAR DATA. Last year, in a sharp break with past policy, Congress gave the President authority to transfer nuclear weapons information and material to other nations. One restriction requires the President to place transfer agreements before the Congress. Unless Congress disapproves of the agreement by a concurrent resolution within 60 days, it becomes effective.

Britain, France. On May 19, President Eisenhower laid before Congress ten-year agreements with Great Britain and France. The agreement with Great Britain will provide that country with non-nuclear parts of atomic weapons and atomic submarine fuel. It supplements another broad pact dated July 3, 1958. France, under the proposed agreement, will receive enriched uranium to develop a submarine propulsion plant.

Germany, Turkey, Netherlands, Canada. Under agreements submitted to Congress on May 26, the United States would furnish these countries:

- non-nuclear parts of atomic weapons systems
- information on the development of delivery systems to carry nuclear weapons, and defense plans
- training of personnel in the use of and defense against atomic weapons.

At this writing no hearings have been scheduled by the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy on any of

these agreements. Unless a large public protest is voiced Congress is likely to pay little attention to these vital pacts.

MILITARY MANPOWER. One outcome of the draft extension battle early this year was the creation of a House Armed Services Subcommittee on Manpower Utilization to study charges of waste and inefficiency.

On May 12, the Subcommittee, in the first of a series of hearings, heard a retired Colonel, Rep. Frank Kowalski of Connecticut, charge that it costs \$30 to \$40 million annually to supply enlisted men as servants for senior officers. In a Report filed with the House Appropriations Committee, the Department of Defense has admitted that approximately 20,000 enlisted men are assigned as stewards, orderlies, mess boys, chauffeurs, etc.

PROFITEERING ON DEFENSE. Congress is preparing to vote at least \$39.2 billion for the Department of Defense. The House has already authorized another \$1.25 billion for military construction.

Since the first of May, Comptroller General Joseph Campbell has accused five aircraft companies of overstating estimated production costs by \$14.7 million. This resulted in a loss to the government and an excess profit to the companies of \$4,401,825.

UN CHARTER REVIEW. Resolutions urging a UN Charter Review Conference were introduced April 23 by Charles Porter and 11 other House members and Senator Joseph Clark, Pa., and 12 other Senators (H.Con.Res. 147; S.Con.Res. 25). The resolutions also urge the President to initiate studies to determine what Charter changes would be necessary to promote a just and lasting peace through the development of enforceable world law.

FOREIGN AID BILL ADVANCES

As this *Newsletter* is written, Senate hearings have been completed on the Mutual Security authorization bill. The House Committee has reported a \$3.6 billion bill, reducing military and increasing economic aid. The largest hurdle is still ahead—the House Appropriations Committee. The main issues this year:

- A larger U.S. Development Loan Fund with a longer life span. Senator Fulbright proposes \$1.5 billion per year for 5 years.
- Separation of military and economic aid.
- More support for UN and other international development programs. Senator Humphrey has offered two amendments which would increase United States support for UN Technical Assistance and permit up to 25% of DLF's loans to be made to international programs.

Inter-American Bank Set Up

After months of negotiations, the Inter-American Development Bank has been created. May 11, President Eisenhower urged Congress to support United States membership and requested \$350 million as the United States share of the Bank's \$850 million capitalization

"We Want to Protect You Against the Possibility That Criminals Might Hide in Here"



for bankable loans. A related Fund for Special Operations with initial resources of \$150 million, two-thirds of which will be supplied by the United States, will make "soft" loans repayable on more lenient terms.

HEALTH FOR PEACE BILL APPROVED

On May 20 the Senate approved 63-17 a "Health for Peace" program of international medical research. The resolution, S.J.Res. 41, by Senator Lister Hill and 63 other Senators, would provide \$50 million annually "to help mobilize the health sciences in the United States as a force for peace, progress, and good will among the peoples of the world." It authorizes a new Research Institute and financial aid to programs on physical and mental diseases and rehabilitation.

Ironically, April 28 the *Congressional Record* Appendix contained three speeches by Major General Marshall Stubbins, Army chief chemical officer, outlining the necessity for United States efforts to develop and perfect chemical and biological weapons. The Fellowship of Reconciliation plans a protest against biological weapons at Fort Detrick, Maryland, July 1-5.

SHARING AMERICA'S ABUNDANCE

No hearings have yet been scheduled on the "Food for Peace" bill, S. 1711, by Senator Hubert H. Humphrey and ten other Senators, nor on other bills to extend Public Law 480, the surplus disposal program. Major portions of P.L. 480 expire December 31.

The Humphrey bill, summarized in the May *Newsletter*,

would extend the law for 5 years. Sales for local currency would be increased from \$1.5 billion to \$2 billion; emergency relief shipments to friendly peoples could reach \$250 million a year. Agreements to supply friendly nations with certain surplus commodities could be made for ten years with a 40-year period for repayment. A Peace Food Administrator would oversee the whole program. More authority would be given for assistance through the UN.

Rep. Leonard G. Wolf, Ia., and 28 other Representatives, have proposed granting the United Nations up to \$250 million worth of surplus foods a year for ten years for use in encouraging economic and social development in various countries in the world (H.R. 6681). Such a proposal could be combined with S. 1711.

International machinery still needs to be developed for sharing surpluses without adversely affecting the economy of contributing and receiving nations.

Senator Alexander Wiley, Wis., has urged hearings on his bill, S. 265, to establish a Country Life Commission to make a long-range study of American agriculture. The proposed Commission is similar to one created 50 years ago by Theodore Roosevelt.

THE PLIGHT OF THE HOMELESS

Over thirty nations, including the United States, have already agreed to cooperate in a World Refugee Year, beginning July 1. During that year they will make a special effort to alleviate the distress of more than 2 million refugees, and to develop permanent programs for the care of future refugees.

At a White House conference, May 21-22, the Administration said it would be willing to: (1) donate an extra \$4 million for relief activities in the Refugee Year. This would supplement the present program, costing about \$44 million a year. (2) increase our food distribution program some \$10 to \$20 million, and (3) change immigration regulations to permit the entry of 10,000 non-quota refugees a year, or up to 20,000 in an emergency situation.

Francis B. Sayre, Jr., Chairman of the United States Committee for Refugees, has indicated that the Administration's proposals are inadequate. His Committee has asked for a special contribution of \$10 million during fiscal 1960, and the regular admission of 20,000 non-quota refugees a year.

Number of bills have been introduced to enable the United States to respond to this continuing problem:

Francis E. Walter, Pa., is urging enactment of a restrictive formula for admitting an unspecified number of refugee-escapees. The Attorney General would be to justify each admission to Congress and either could terminate the program at will (H.J.Res. 100).

General immigration bills include provisions for refugees: H.R. 6826 (Lindsay, N. Y.), S. 952 (Humphrey, Minn.), S. 1919 (Javits, N. Y. and 3

others), S. 1996 (Kennedy, Mass.) They would all establish permanent refugee programs under which the President could parole 60,000 to 83,000 refugees into the United States each year. Such refugees would be allowed to acquire permanent residence status one to two years after entry.

In addition, the Javits bill allows for the admission of some 35,000 presently unsettled refugee-escapees and 5,000 "nonsettled hard-core" cases, e.g., the aged or incapable; \$5 million is provided for resettling and rehabilitating these "hard-core" refugees. FCNL believes these provisions should be supported.

THE RIGHTS OF CITIZENSHIP

Although opponents of civil rights legislation have been using delaying tactics to prolong Congressional hearings, leaders of both parties predict that a "moderate" civil rights bill will be passed this year. The House Judiciary Committee hopes to send a bill to the floor by early June. Senate hearings are scheduled to end May 28.

According to forecasters, the final bill may be a compromise between the Administration proposals and Senator Lyndon B. Johnson's bill. Both would extend the life of the Civil Rights Commission; give the Attorney General power to inspect voting records; and make bombing a Federal offense (the Johnson bill includes a possible death penalty). The Administration would also provide financial and technical aid and legal protection to schools seeking to desegregate.

TEACHERS AND BRICKS

May 14 the House Education and Labor Committee voted to report an amended version of the Murray-Metcalf bill (H.R. 22) which would provide \$4.4 billion of Federal aid for school construction and teachers' salaries over a 4-year period. According to Cleveland M. Bailey, Chairman of the General Education Subcommittee, the bill faces "two pretty stiff bottlenecks—the Rules Committee and the floor of the House."

"MORE THAN WE COULD CHEW"

For the last 5 years, Indian organizations and Indian sympathizers have worked for repeal of H.Con.Res. 108, of the 83rd Congress. This resolution specifies that it is the policy of Congress to terminate Federal control over Indian groups "as rapidly as possible." According to Senator Clinton P. Anderson, N. Mex., Congress "bit off more than we could chew" in endorsing this statement.

There are now three major policy statements before Congress: S.Con.Res. 12, by James E. Murray, Mont., and 9 others, emphasizes that Federal responsibility

for Indian groups will not be terminated without their consent, and that they shall not be "cast" into American life until they are adequately prepared. These are two prerequisites many believe essential.

S.Con.Res. 28, by Clinton Anderson and 8 others, requests the Secretary of Interior to classify all Indian tribes into groups which can be terminated within set periods of time. Although the Secretary is to "confer" with Indians regarding termination proposals, Congress is given ultimate responsibility for determining the timing of any legislation.

H.Con.Res. 40, by George S. McGovern, S. Dak., specifies: (1) that the central purpose of the Bureau of Indian Affairs is to assist Indian communities to develop their human and economic potential; (2) that the Indians themselves are to be the ultimate judges of when Federal services shall be withdrawn.

Medical Clinics and Pure Water

The low level of Indian health has become of increasing concern to more and more Americans.

April 30 the House of Representatives approved a \$50.1 million appropriation for Indian health services during the year beginning July 1, 1959. This is \$3.5 million more than requested. In justifying this increase, the Appropriations Committee pointed out that an adequate program now will solve the problem sooner, and save money in the long run.

May 20 the Senate passed a bill, S. 56, authorizing the Public Health Service to provide basic sanitation facilities, including pure water supplies and waste disposal on Indian reservations. Similar bills, H.R. 849 and others, are pending before the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. FCNL testified in support of these measures on May 5.

THE RIGHT TO TRAVEL, TO SPEAK, AND TO ASSEMBLE

Congress is considering a number of proposals which would restrict civil liberties and negate recent Supreme Court decisions. Two bills have passed the House; others have been reported or are being reviewed in Committee hearings. The Senate Internal Security Subcommittee is expected to recommend passage of several bills in the near future.

Important pending bills include proposals to: **restrict the right to travel** (S. 1303, H.R. 55, H.R. 5455 and others); **reinstate State sedition laws** (S. 294, S. 1299, H.R. 2368); **extend the Federal security program** to cover non-sensitive as well as sensitive positions (H.R. 1161, H.R. 1989, H.R. 1870, S. 1304); **require automatic firing** of any Government employee who refuses to answer

any question bearing upon his loyalty (S. 1301); alter the Smith Act to **make "advocacy" of forcible overthrow of the Government a crime**, even if it is not aimed at inciting to action (S. 1305).

FCNL witnesses have opposed these measures in testimony before House and Senate Committees. Thirty-five law professors have urged the Senate to reject the above bills because "... in combination, they seem to us to jeopardize many of the values most highly cherished in a free society." These protesters include the Deans of Harvard, Yale, Columbia and University of Pennsylvania Law Schools. *The New York Times* endorsed their position editorially on May 6, 1959. Write for a recent FCNL *Action* bulletin giving more detailed information. Please enclose self-addressed, stamped envelope.



SOCIAL ACTION HIGHLIGHTS

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The "functional forum" will emphasize the work in the local church of the Department of Christian Action and Community Service. Featured at the forum will be a new filmstrip for use in local churches. The forum is being sponsored by the Christian Service Committee of the Home and State Missions Planning Council under the chairmanship of Dr. Lewis McAdow. It will be held at the Convention auditorium, 2:30-4:30 p.m., Tuesday, September 1.

A proposed resolution will ask Convention endorsement of the "Hartford Appeal" of the National Council of Churches on the right of churches to speak on social issues. In the field of race relations, approval will be asked for: a survey instrument to assist local churches who wish to participate in a study of attitudes; and a resolution urging implementation of past convention resolutions on race.

CHANGING FAMILY LIFE

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would seriously challenge. Hence, as a basic institution, the church must look honestly at what is happening today. The discussion here is concerned with some of the problems in family life such as marital difficulties, divorce, delinquency, and child nurture—as more and more wives and mothers are employed outside the home.

The final chapter, "The Church and the Community," sets the problems within the framework of the traditional organization of church and community life, and suggest specific ways in which individuals, church and community may outline programs to help face the issues created through woman's employment.

There will not be, I'm sure, universal agreement with Mrs. Wedel regarding this mammoth problem. But I'm equally certain that here is a forthright analysis of the problem, with deep psychological and religious insights—raising many pertinent questions that will stimulate any person or group who will dare to read it. This booklet study guide will be useful to the minister as well as a part of a study-action program for Christian Action and Community Service Committees, Christian Women's Fellowship, Christian Men's Fellowship, Christian Youth Fellowship, and other groups of the church.

THOMAS J. GRIFFIN

THE WAITING PEOPLE

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sands of refugees living outside camps.

This world-wide program should assist the refugees in meeting their spiritual and physical needs through self-help programs and material aid; and help them plan for establishing new homes in countries of asylum or by migration abroad. The material aid and self-help programs include the sending of relief supplies such as surplus food (Share Our Surplus and CROP), used clothing and bedding, medical supplies and vitamins. The self-help programs would provide means (sewing machines, tools, etc.) of making a livelihood; and the sending of seeds and animals (such as Heifer Projects, Inc.) to farmers. Church self-help programs should also be intensified such as the Greek Team; the work being done by our own Garlan Hoskins and Nell Carlson in German refugee camps; and that which Bill Nottingham is doing in CIMADE in Paris.

It is important, too, that American sponsors be willing to make an extra effort to sponsor "hard core" (hard-to-resettle) cases. Too long we have said we would sponsor a family "if they spoke fluent English, had a good education, were industrious, would do the most menial work no matter what their training." There are people waiting who have been waiting since Hitler's slave labor camps—children and young people who have known nothing but refugee camps—the handicapped—the aged and infirm—the untrained. These people, too, need help.

A few of the statistics in Europe might give a picture of the magnitude of the problem: Austria has 83,250 refugees, including 18,250 Hungarians who have not found permanent answers. In Germany 264,500 refugees fled from the East Zone in one year and a flow of 750 per day continues. In Greece at least 2,000,000 people are destitute and need food and clothing. Dutch political refugees from Indonesia have flooded already overcrowded Holland. Nearly 100,000 refugees, storm-stricken farmers and institution dwellers are in Italy. Add to this number the thousands of refugees and sufferers in famine stricken areas in Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean.

American churches are called upon to

AIRLINE LIQUOR BAN; ADVERTISING GETS PUBLIC ATTENTION

The long fight to ban service of alcohol on airlines may come to a head in this session of Congress. The Airline Safety Bill (H.R. 1075) by Rep. John Bell Williams was considered by the House *Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee* at hearings May 14 and 15. A similar bill passed the House of Representatives in the 84th Congress but failed to get by the Senate in the last days before adjournment.

Some "Specifics" on H.R. 1075

The Williams Bill and a companion measure in the Senate by J. Strom Thurmond would ban liquor service on all civilian and military aircraft. The safety legislation was originally proposed by associations of airline pilots and stewardesses. In previous testimony the pilots and stewardesses cited numerous instances in which drunken passengers had created conditions that might have resulted in tragedy. Opposition to the liquor ban legislation is again expected from the airlines and the liquor interests. Churchmen interested in supporting the Williams and Thurmond bills are urged to write their representative in Congress and two U.S. Senators.

Some "Specifics" on H.R. 2221

Legislation to prohibit the advertising of alcoholic beverages in interstate commerce appears at this point to be bottled up in a Congressional Committee until sometime after January, 1960. Rep. Eugene Siler has introduced legislation (H.R. 2221) to outlaw alcohol advertising in magazines, newspapers and on television and radio. It seems likely that the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee will devote its attention this year to the airline safety bill with the possibility of hearings in 1960 on the legislation to ban alcohol advertising.

Meanwhile, there was some good news on the advertising front as Standard Rate and Data Guide Service reported that 233 U.S. magazines refused to accept alcoholic beverage advertising. These included 26 magazines with a circulation of one million or more and 18 between 300,000 and a million. Two of the magazines, *This Week* and *Reader's Digest*, have a circulation exceeding 12 million copies per issue.

join the United Nations, the United States and voluntary agencies such as Church World Service in preparing for and making WORLD REFUGEE YEAR—July 1, 1959, to June 30, 1960—successful.

ELLA L. WILLIAMS



When Your Committee Meets—

The Committee on Christian Action and Community Service in your church may find suggestions and help from the following list of events, projects and resources:

LABOR SUNDAY— SEPTEMBER 6th

"Ninety-nine percent of all Christians are lay people. Therefore if the Gospel of the Christian Faith is to have any relevancy, it must be appropriated through the vocations of all who work—in the home, factory, farm, education, government, and in all other areas of human endeavor. For a few short hours a month lay people are within the church building. They spend most of their waking hours at work to support self and family.

"The church, then, must be viewed as being where its lay people as well as its clergy are. As a community of people dedicated to the worship of God, the church is present wherever its members are and it is involved in whatever they do for a livelihood."

In planning for Labor Sunday, your committee will want to keep in mind the above quotations. Here we have a picture of the necessity of the church seeing itself in a broad light as it relates to labor.

A Christian Action and Community Service program planning packet has been mailed by the Department of Social Welfare, to all Chairmen or Correspondents of Committees whose names have been filed with the Department. It includes "Some Helpful Hints" for Labor Sunday observance. These are "hints" to spur attendance, to aid in worship, to aid in sermon preparation, to involve as many as possible in an educational program on the "labor" subject, and a careful selection of resources to assist in understanding the relationship of labor and the work-a-day world to the Christian faith.

● A copy of this Program Planning Packet is available to any church by sending to the Department of Social Welfare, UCMS, the name and address of the Chairman or Correspondent of the church's Committee responsible for social education and action.

● Order the 1959 Labor Sunday message direct from the National Council of Churches, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, New York. Make plans to use it at an appropriate time in the observance.

THOMAS J. GRIFFIN

WORLD REFUGEE YEAR

A Local Church Opportunity

July 1, 1959, through June 30, 1960, has been designated as "World Refugee Year." Here is an opportunity for your department or committee to involve the whole church in this pressing world problem.

Possibly you are asking, "What can we do?" The following suggestions might prove helpful:

1. Focus the interest of the local church on the refugee problem through study of materials toward the solution of the problem through relief, voluntary repatriation, integration and resettlement. (See article "The Waiting People;" page one.)

2. Make complete and detailed plans for Week of Compassion by securing all available information and materials.

3. Choose one or more of the following projects in order to learn more about needs and services; interest the total congregation:

• Participate in Church World Service Programs such as; "Share Our Surplus" (SOS), Heifer Projects, Inc., or CROP.

• Participate through "United Clothing Appeal" (CWS).

• Assist overseas programs of self-help and training, religious ministry by supporting Week of Compassion—encouraging selected young people to consider short term Voluntary Christian Service (such as being on the Greek Team or refugee work) on a subsistence basis—helping provide scholarship aid to those who need special training—encouraging college young people to participate in Ecumenical Work Camps and provide scholarship aid for them.

• Take steps to sponsor a refugee family; consider a "hard to resettle" case.

For information regarding any of the

CHRISTIAN ACTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE MANUAL

FROM CHAPTER XII OPEN DOOR FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN¹

"What'll we do about Race Relations Sunday?" George Smith dropped the question into a momentary silence as Grant Street Christian Church's Department of Christian Action and Community Service began its monthly meeting.

"... There are many races in our country, state, the nation and the world. The subject is constantly in the headlines. Maybe we should talk about race before there is a crisis in our community. Then we would know what our religion requires of us in the midst of racial tensions and opportunities.

.....

"Grant Street's problem is every church's today. Shall we study, investigate, and act in the field of racial tensions now, or wait until the problem directly affects us? Most congregations are willing to answer, 'Now is the time!!'"

¹ Order the Manual from Christian Board of Publication, Box 179, St. Louis—60 cents.

above projects, please write to the Department of Social Welfare, U.C.M.S.

Social Action
NEWS LETTER

Second-class mail privileges
authorized at
Indianapolis, Indiana.